

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

October 5, 2021

Honorable Carlos Del Toro
Secretary of the Navy
1000 Navy Pentagon
Washington, DC 20350-1200

Major General Julian D. Alford
Commanding General Camp Lejeune
MCIEAST- Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune
33 Holcomb Blvd, Camp Lejeune, NC 28547

Lieutenant Colonel Alan Schuller
Staff Judge Advocate Training Command
MCIEAST- Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune
33 Holcomb Blvd, Camp Lejeune, NC 28547

Re: Accepting Lieutenant Colonel (Lt.Col.) Stuart Scheller's resignation in lieu of court martial.

The purpose of this letter is to request an expedited review and approval of Lt.Col. Scheller's request to resign his commission in the U.S. Marine Corps in lieu of trial pursuant to MARINE CORPS ORDER 1900.16 CH 2¹ and SECNAV INSTRUCTION 1920.6D².

We urge all parties involved to accept a de-escalation and mitigation agreement that allows Lt.Col. Scheller to end his service to the Marine Corps in lieu of trial.

We do not take this recommendation lightly but after multiple days of hearings on Capitol Hill regarding the Afghanistan withdrawal and the failed drone strike that killed multiple Afghan civilians, we feel it is time to focus on the message of accountability and proportionality. Lt.Col. Scheller asked for accountability for the failures of leaders who enforce the Uniform Code of Military Justice but for some reason are not subject to it themselves. If Lt.Col. Scheller had been in command of an infantry unit who killed the Afghani civilians in question, he and his men would be thrown into a military brig pending charges for murder. To our knowledge, no one is pending charges for the murder of the Afghani people or resigning for the deaths of 13 service members during the last days of the Afghan withdrawal.

Lt.Col. Scheller is willing to accept responsibility for speaking out by resigning his commission. No other military leader has shown such integrity for their missteps during the retreat and surrender that failed.

¹ <https://www.marines.mil/portals/1/Publications/MCO%201900.16%20CH%202.pdf?ver=2019-02-26-080015-447>

² [1920.6D.pdf \(navy.mil\)](#)

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Furthermore, both SECNAVINST 1920.6D(d)(2) and MARINE CORPS ORDER 1900.16 CH 1 Paragraph 1004.2.b(2), are clear that the process for separation in lieu of trial can be viewed as a compromise for both parties. The regulations would allow Lt.Col. Scheller to receive a general discharge under honorable conditions or an honorable discharge given Lt.Col. Scheller's otherwise meritorious service.

We the undesigned Members of Congress herein wholeheartedly support Lt.Col. Scheller's honorable discharge from the U.S. Marine Corps in lieu of trial. For all the aforementioned reasons we respectfully request an expedited review and approval of Lt.Col. Scheller's request to separate under MARINE CORPS ORDER 1900.16 CH 2 and SECNAV INSTRUCTION 1920.6D.

We appreciate your attention to this critically important matter and will await your crucial decision as members of Congress, the Senate, and the American public diligently watch.

Respectfully submitted,



Rep. Louie Gohmert
Member of Congress



Rep. Bob Good
Member of Congress



Rep. W. Gregory Steube
Member of Congress



Rep. Randy Weber
Member of Congress



Rep. Andy Harris, M.D.
Member of Congress



Rep. Kat Cammack
Member of Congress

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Rep. Andy Biggs
Member of Congress



Rep. Jeff Duncan
Member of Congress



Rep. Ralph Norman
Member of Congress



Rep. Diana Harshbarger
Member of Congress



Rep. Dan Bishop
Member of Congress



Rep. Barry Loudermilk
Member of Congress



Rep. Chip Roy
Member of Congress



Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene
Member of Congress



Rep. Earl L. "Buddy" Carter
Member of Congress



Rep. Madison Cawthorn
Member of Congress



Rep. Nicole Malliotakis
Member of Congress



Rep. Debbie Lesko
Member of Congress

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Rep. Matt Gaetz
Member of Congress



Rep. Thomas Massie
Member of Congress



Rep. Bill Posey
Member of Congress



Rep. Paul A. Gosar, D.D.S.
Member of Congress



Rep. Lance Gooden
Member of Congress